

60130-1872; 02MRA0412

REMARKS

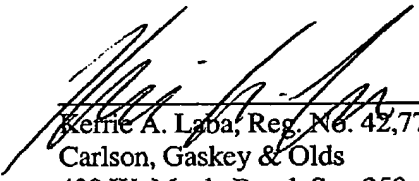
Claims 1 and 4-22 remain pending in the application including independent claims 1 and 22. Claims 2-3 have been cancelled and new dependent claim 23 has been added.

Claim 3 is indicated as allowable. The features of claim 3 and intervening claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 1, thus claims 1 and 4-21 should now be in condition for allowance. Further, claim 22 does not stand rejected under any prior art in the present office action. Thus, applicant assumes that claim 22 is allowed. New dependent claim 23 should also be condition for allowance as claim 23 includes the features of claim 3.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 13, and 16-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Volland (US 4618532). Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over, Volland. Claims 11, 12, 14, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Volland in view of O'Brien (WO 01/26932). Claims 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Volland in view of Pelzer (US 6010870). Claims 4-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Volland in view of Marcovecchio (US 2002/0176980). These rejections are moot in light of the amendments set forth above.

Applicant asserts that all claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests an indication of such. Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,



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